



Robert E. Bush
Naval Hospital

Did you know?...

You have the right to express your concerns about patient safety and quality of care.

There are several avenues open to you:

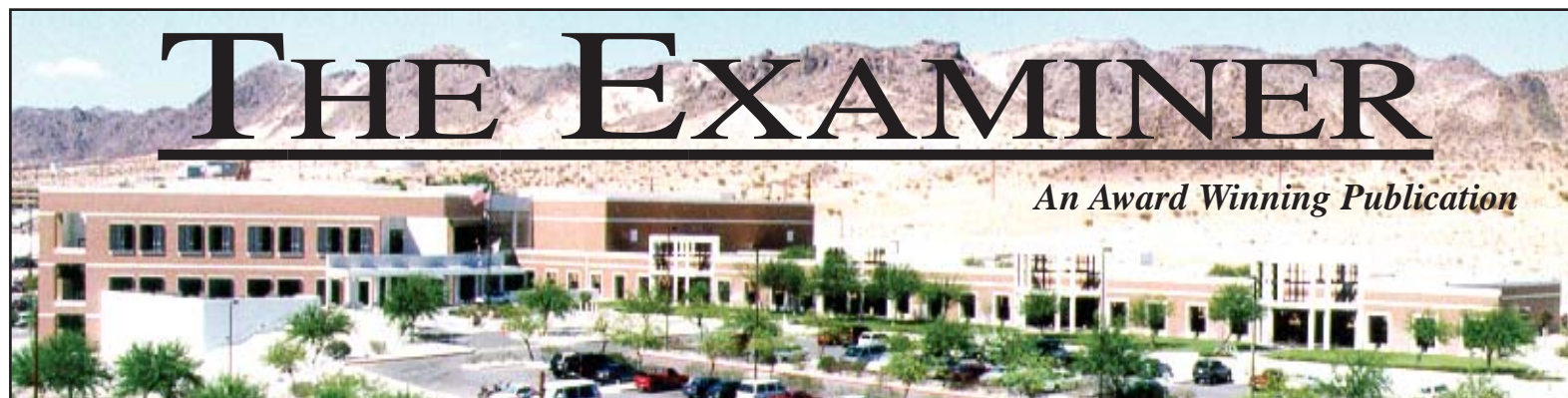
- * Through the ICE website.
- * The Hospital Customer Relations Officer at 760-830-2475, or any of the Customer Relations representatives in the Hospital clinics, or directly to the Joint Commission via: E-mail at complaint@jointcommission.org Fax: 630-792-5636

The Joint Commission
Oak Renaissance Boulevard
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

To report Fraud, Waste and Abuse contact one of the below offices by calling:

Naval Hospital: 760-830-2344
Combat Center: 760-830-7749
NavMedWest: 1-877-479-3832
Medical IG: 1-800-637-6175
DoD IG: 1-800-424-9098

Commanding Officer
Naval Hospital Public Affairs Office
Box 788250 MAGTFC
Twentynine Palms, CA 92278-8250



<http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nhttp/pages/default.aspx>

Joint Commission and Navy Medical Inspector General to Visit NHTP Jan. 12-16

The Joint Commission, an independent not-for-profit organization, will visit NHTP Jan. 12-16, for its certification process. The Joint Commission accredits

and certifies more than 20,500 health care organizations and programs in the United States. The Joint Commission addresses all complaints that pertain to patient safety or quality of care

issues within the scope of Joint Commission standards. Complaints may be forwarded by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services or other federal or state agencies having oversight responsibilities for healthcare organizations, or may be received directly from consumers, payers, or healthcare professionals. As used here, the term "complaint" includes potentially relevant reports that are received from federal or state agencies, identified in the media, or otherwise obtained by The Joint Commission. It is the policy of The Joint Commission that it will only disclose patient identifiable information if authorized by the patient, as consistent with its business associate obligations, or other-

wise authorized by law. The Joint Commission has a toll-free hotline to provide patients, their families, caregivers, and others with an opportunity to share concerns regarding quality of care issues at accredited health care organizations. The toll-free number is 1-(800) 994-6610 and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Staff members are available to answer calls only on weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (central time).

Concerns may also be brought to the attention of the Medical Inspector General hotline at 1-(800) 637-6175 (DSN: 295-9019), or via email: NavyMEDIGHotline@med.navy.mil

New Year's Eve Baby!



Chiara and Hospitalman Kiori Edwards welcome baby Kyli Michelle into the world. Kyli was born on NHTP's Maternal Infant and Nursing Ward at 8:42 p.m. on Dec. 31 and weighed in at seven pounds, 15 ounces. Both mother and baby are doing well. Chiara and Kiori, both from Columbia, S.C., have one other child, three-year-old, Kiori. HN Edwards, assigned to NHTP's Emergency Medicine Department, has been here since 2011.

Patients seen in November -- 8,068

Appointment No Shows in November -- 804

In November we had an 9.1 percent no show rate. We need to keep trending downward by keeping the appointments we make, or by canceling in enough time for someone else to use the slot...

To help patients obtain appointments, the Naval Hospital now shows the number of open appointment slots each day on the hospital Facebook site, check it out. On Facebook, search: *Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms*.

To make an appointment call -- 760-830-2752

To cancel an appointment call -- 760-830-2369



Senior Chief Petty Officer (Surface Warfare) Carl N. White is piped ashore at his retirement ceremony Dec. 22. HMSC White was celebrated for his mentoring and leadership, and for his 25 years of faithful and devoted service. Fair winds and following seas, Senior Chief!

Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Team Embraces New Technology and Expands Membership

**By Cmdr. Michelle French,
SAFE Program Manager**

Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms' Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) Team recently celebrated their first-year anniversary, welcoming in new members and bidding farewell to colleagues who are PCSing. The Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners are medical providers of varied disciplines and specialties who are trained in the comprehensive medical care and forensic evidence preservation and collection for adult victims and perpetrators of sexual assault. The all-volunteer team has provided around the clock coverage since Sept. 30, 2013. Our team has grown from the 11 original plank owners to a total of 27 examiners and assistants throughout Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms, Branch Clinic China Lake and Branch Clinic Bridgeport. Collection of forensic evidence is time sensitive; however, it needs to be leveraged against

acute medical needs, safety concerns and the extreme sensitivity of the situation. Therefore,

hensively provide patient-centered care. Additionally, individuals who have been sexually

evaluation as this may result in loss of evidence.

This fiscal year alone, we have

evidentiary exam process. This motivated group of individuals has proactively expressed an interest in carrying out their part in the sexual assault care continuum and we are proud to include them in the team. We are also pleased to pilot the incorporation of telemedicine into our practice through our partnership with the National TeleNursing Center of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. This group of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) is also on call around the clock and provides specialty consultation through audiovisual technology to enhance the care we provide to victims of sexual assault. All methods of forensic examination, to include the telemedicine component, remain optional to victims of sexual assault. It is our role to provide victims with accurate information so that they may make well-informed decisions in the immediate aftermath of a sexual assault.



NHTP SAFE Team enjoys holiday celebration welcoming new members and offering "fair winds and following seas" to those PCSing.

the SAFE's work in conjunction with the Emergency Medicine Department, law enforcement, and victim advocates to compre-

assaulted are strongly discouraged from performing any hygiene, eating, drinking or urinating if at all possible prior to

added new technology and new personnel. We formalized the role of the SAFE assistant and recently trained seven enlisted staff on their integral role in the



Hospitalman Dillion Ohair (center) is welcomed back on Dec. 3, after spending a six-month deployment with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU). HN Ohair, from Orange County, Calif., is a general-duty Corpsman in the NHTP Emergency Department. The 31st MEU provides a forward deployed flexible sea-based Marine Air Ground Task Force capable of conducting amphibious operations, crisis response and limited contingency operations in the Asia-Pacific area.



Lt. Kenton Tarver (center) is celebrated by the Public Health Directorate Dec. 4 upon his departure from the Navy. Lt. Tarver has been in the Navy three years. He is putting his PhD. in audiology on hold to become a commodities trader in Atlanta.

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Commanding Officer

Capt. Jay C. Sourbeer, MC, USN

Executive Officer

Capt. Angela S. Nimmo, NC, USN

Command Master Chief

HCMC (FMF/AW/SW) Carol Merricks, USN

Public Affairs Officer/Editor

Dave Marks

Command Ombudsman

Bright Opoku (760) 910-2050 email: nhtpombudsman@yahoo.com

The Examiner welcomes your comments and suggestions concerning the publication. Deadline for submission of articles is the 15th of each month for the following month's edition. Any format is welcome, however, the preferred method of submission is by e-mail or by computer disk.

How to reach us...

Commanding Officer Naval Hospital
Public Affairs Office
Box 788250 MAGTFTC
Twentynine Palms, CA 92278-8250
Com: (760) 830-2362
DSN: 230-2362
E-mail: david.marks@med.navy.mil
Hi-Desert Publishing Company
56445 Twentynine Palms Highway
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
Com: (760) 365-3315
FAX: (760) 365-8686



Preventive Medicine Corner

Submit Questions/Concerns and Tanya Will Provide Answers



Tanya Stuckey

Dear Tanya,

My husband died a few years ago just around Christmas time. I can't help myself and get terribly depressed at this time of year. It's not fair to my children. I'm tempted to send them to their grandma's house for most of December. On the other hand, I dread being alone. Is this feeling ever going to pass or am I stuck in a cycle of holiday depression? It also doesn't

help that everyone else seems so happy and delighted with the coming of the holidays and all of the family get-togethers and traditions. Is there any help available to me? I still have military benefits.

Signed,

Not happy with the Holidays

Dear Not Happy,

I am sorry about your loss and hope that I can give a few options to make the holidays more bearable. It is not uncommon for the anniversary date of a loved one's death to bring about feelings of sadness and even despair; loss often results in self-isolation and diminished interest in things that were once enjoyable. Celebrate memories by sharing activities your loved one enjoyed. If you find this is just too painful and the memories bring about more anxiety, try creating new traditions with family and friends. Reach out to those who are important to you

instead of withdrawing. Surrounding yourself with the people you enjoy, engaging in positive, social activity (no matter how small) and practicing self-care are ways to minimize symptoms of depression through the holidays.

If you still have children at home, focus your attention on them and show them that although it is painful, it is possible to survive and even move on, to find joy in family, friends and life. I know it sounds cliché; however, time allows us to heal and turn the pain of loss into beautiful remembrances.

It is ok to seek help in dealing with grief. NHTP Behavioral Health Consultant (Blue/Gold Team PCM), NHTP Mental Health, Chaplains and MCCS Counseling Services are available for support. Grief support groups are also accessible through TriCare civilian community resources. Please contact one of these resources, now.

Baby Steps, continued from below

also know that is not reasonable. So why do we set ourselves up for failure by making our goals too big? Start with small, achievable goals. Each victory will build confidence and inspiration to move forward in positive change.

Do your Research

Support systems are great! Workout partners or accountability buddies are a great way to face difficult changes such as increasing activity, eating healthier, and cutting out the bad habits in our lives. Just be sure you realize that everyone is different. Even with the same end goal, we are not all the same. Health factors, medications, injuries, family life-- we all have our own unique existence that requires us to formulate healthy lifestyle changes that suit our needs.

Count the Right Numbers

I'm not talking about the scale, tape measure or clothing size; look at your blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood sugar levels. Monitor your mood, energy levels and overall health for

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optimal results! These are the numbers that matter! These numbers will bring you closer to the other figures you may have been chasing. Increasing activity, making healthy food choices and following your medical provider's guidelines will have you looking and feeling great!

Get Moving!

Incorporating small changes into your daily routine can make a big difference. Take the stairs while navigating your way to and from appointments or work areas in the hospital. It is faster and better for your health! Park a little farther away from the store entrance when holiday shopping. This is a great way to avoid cramped parking areas and cart damage. Join in on group exercise. Having others with a similar goal, the support and accountability friends/co-workers/neighbors can offer boosts motivation! If you are looking for a place to begin, check out the fitness programs at MCCS Semper Fit or feel free to join the NHTP Walking Group on Tuesdays and Thursdays @ 1100. For more information about the NHTP walking group, call Tanya 830-2173.

Making New Year's Resolutions We Can Keep



The NHTP Walking Club steps out for better health, camaraderie, and good times. The club meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. in the Emergency Dept. parking lot and welcomes new ambulators.

By Tanya Stuckey

It's a new year and many of us find ourselves motivated to make a fresh start. That's great!

Here are some tips on how to maintain your motivation and make your New Year's resolution a life-long change:

Baby Steps

We all would love to have magical results overnight, but we
Continued above, Baby Steps

Our commitment to you:

NHTP personnel are scrupulous in providing a safe environment for active military, beneficiaries, family members, and visitors. One aspect of providing high quality care is providing an infection-free environment. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates 722,000 patients are infected each year from an infection acquired in a healthcare setting. Practicing good hand hygiene helps to decrease this number. Medical providers practice hand hygiene by washing hands with soap and water or by using alcohol-based hand rub. Hand hygiene is performed before patient contact, after contact with any soiled material, before invasive procedures, and after removing gloves. Patients can help by reminding healthcare providers to perform hand hygiene. For more information, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at CDC.gov. --Teresa Turbyfill, Infection Preventionist

2X3
Smith's Family
Properties

Super Stars...



HM3 Tyler K. Boyd



HM3 John Paul Astfalk



HM3 Philip G. Price



HM3 Justin A. Harrison



HM3 Dennis V. Roxas



HM3 Jacob P. Schmidt



HM3 Scott R. Schumaker



HM3 Glenn J. Shortt



IT3 Sydney L. Zmich

Congratulations!

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms
To: HN JohnPaul L. Astfalk, HN Tyler K. Boyd, HN Justin A. Harrison, CSSN Isaiah N. Jackson, HN Philip G. Price, HN Dennis V. Roxas, HN Jacob P. Schmidt, HN Scott R. Schumaker, HN Glenn J. Shortt, and ITSN Sydney L. Zmich

Subj: AUTHORITY TO ASSUME THE TITLE AND WEAR THE UNIFORM OF PETTY OFFICER THIRD CLASS

Ref: (a) MILPERSMAN 1420-060

Under reference (a), you are hereby authorized to assume the title and wear the uniform of a Petty Officer Third Class effective immediately. Your appointment carries with it the obligation that you exercise increased authority and willingly accept greater responsibility. Occupying now a position of greater authority, you must strive with a renewed dedication toward the valued ideal of service with honor. Under reference (a), you will not be entitled to pay and other monetary allowances of a Petty Officer Third Class until actually advanced to the pay grade for which you have been selected.

Signed,
 J. C. Sourbeer, Captain,
 Medical Corps,
 United States Navy



Petty Officer 1st Class (Fleet Marine Force) Danell Dumas is awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (Gold star in lieu of third award) "for professional achievement in the superior performance of her duties while serving as Leading Petty Officer, Staff Education and Training Department, NHTP, from Oct. 2013 to Sept. 2014 which culminated in her selection as Senior Sailor of the Year for Fiscal Year 2014. Petty Officer Dumas' personal initiative, perseverance and unswerving devotion to duty reflect great credit upon herself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."



Ms. Cheryl Frazer is recognized for her selection as Contractor of the Quarter, Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms, for the period from July 1 to Sept. 30, 2014. "Your exemplary professionalism and outstanding performance of duty reflect great credit upon yourself and are in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service. I commend you for a job 'Well Done' and wish you continued success in your future endeavors." -- Capt. Sourbeer



Culinary Specialist Second Class Jeffrey Eng is recognized for his "outstanding performance as a volunteer with the Diversity Committee, Naval Hospital, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, California on Oct. 9, 2014. Your willingness to share your valuable time, expertise and experience contributed to the overall success of this year's Hispanic Heritage festivity. I commend you for a job 'Well Done' and wish you continued success in your future endeavors."

Signed,
 J. C. Sourbeer, Captain,
 Medical Corps,
 United States Navy
 Note: CS2 Eng received this reward on behalf of the following personnel:

- MA1 Adams
- CS2 Decastro
- HM2 Blas
- HM2 Diaz
- HM2 Sanchez
- HM3 Dyer
- HN Bickford
- HN Catelo
- HN Ortiz
- HN Roxas
- HN Ortiz
- Pastor Albert Perez
- Mrs. Sabrina Kyle

CS2 Eng also received an award for his time and service to the 2014 Red Ribbon Week Campaign. CS2 Eng received this reward on behalf of the following personnel:

- LT Cao
- CSC Ramirez
- HM1 Macknight
- HM1 Soza
- HM1 Cervantes
- HM1 Teofilo
- HM3 Lo
- CSSN Lostal



Hospitalman Carlo M. Foles is presented a Letter of Commendation for outstanding performance of duties while serving as General Duty Corpsman, Maternal Infant Nursing Department and Adult Medical Care Clinic, NHTP, from Dec. 2012 to Dec. 2014. As Shift Leader in the Maternal Infant Nursing Department, he trained 13 staff Corpsman on rigorous departmental competencies resulting in the delivery of quality maternal-newborn care. Hospitalman Foles' exceptional professional ability and loyal devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Signed,
 Bruce L. Gillingham,
 Rear Admiral, Medical Corps,
 United States Navy



Hospitalman Joshua Holder is presented a Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding customer service in the NHTP Emergency Department.

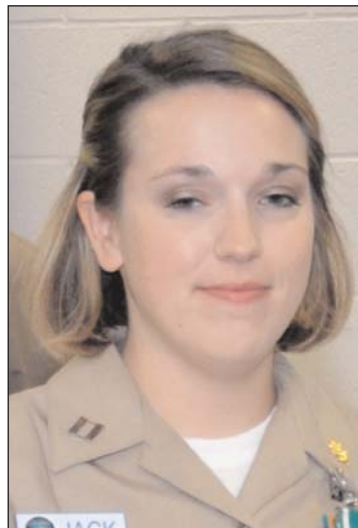


Hospital Corpsman First Class (Surface Warfare) Madonna L. Macknight is presented a Letter of Commendation for outstanding performance of duties while serving as Leading Petty Officer, Pharmacy Department, Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms from April 2014 to June 2014 culminating in her selection as Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms' Senior Sailor of the Quarter for the Third Quarter, Fiscal Year 2014. Petty Officer Macknight's exceptional professional ability and loyal devotion to duty reflect great credit upon herself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

*Signed,
Bruce L. Gillingham,
Rear Admiral, Medical Corps,
United States Navy*

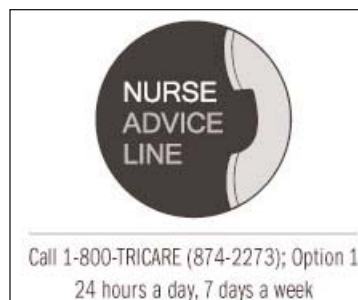


Gunnery Sgt. Joseph A. Saunders is awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal from the Secretary of the Navy for meritorious service while serving as Senior Enlisted Advisor and Medical Liaison, detachment Twentynine Palms, Wounded Warrior Battalion West,



Lt. Amanda M. Jack is awarded a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal "for meritorious service while serving as Division Officer, Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic, NHTP, from Sept. 2011 to Dec. 2014. Lt. Jack instituted numerous performance improvement projects including the obstetric due date tracker, electronic essentris intake note and patient satisfaction tracker. Lieutenant Jack's distinctive accomplishments, unrelenting perseverance, and steadfast devotion to duty reflect great credit upon herself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

*Saunders, continued
Wounded Warrior Regiment ,
Headquarters United States
Marine Corps, from April 2011
to Sept. 2014. Gunnery Sgt.
Saunders' professionalism,
determination and keen focus
on care for 90 wounded, ill,
and injured, ensured the suc-
cess of an exceptionally diverse
unit. Gunnery Sergeant
Saunders' distinctive accom-
plishments, unrelenting perse-
verance, and steadfast devotion
to duty reflect great credit upon
himself and are in keeping with
the highest traditions of the
United States Naval Service.
Signed,
T. S. Tomko, Colonel,
United States Marine Corps,
Commanding Officer Wounded
Warrior Regiment*



Hospitalman Justin A. Yamamoto receives a Letter of Commendation "for outstanding performance of duties while serving as General Duty Corpsman, Maternal Infant Nursing Department, Family Practice Blue Team, and Pediatrics Clinics, NHTP, from Dec. 2012 to Dec. 2014. He assisted 3,470 patients successfully supporting military and family readiness in three different departments. Hospitalman Yamamoto's exceptional professional ability and loyal devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

*Signed,
Bruce L. Gillingham,
Rear Admiral, Medical Corps,
United States Navy.*



Personnel Specialist Third Class Lindon Spicer receives a Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding customer service in the Human Resource Department.



CS2 Stephen C. Fuqua



CS2 Donald N. Fryer



HM2 Martel J. Thomas



CS2 Dominique D. Demeritte

Congratulations!

*From: Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms
To: HM3 Martel J. Thomas, CS3 Dominique D. Demeritte, CS3 Donald N. Fryer, and CS3 Stephen C. Fuqua*

Subject: AUTHORITY TO ASSUME THE TITLE AND WEAR THE UNIFORM OF PETTY OFFICER SECOND CLASS

Ref: (a) MILPERSMAN 1420-060

Under reference (a), you are hereby authorized to assume the title and wear the uniform of a Petty Officer Second Class effective immediately. Your appointment carries with it the obligation that you exercise increased authority and willingly accept greater responsibility. Occupying now a position of greater authority, you must strive with a renewed dedication toward the valued ideal of service with honor. Under reference (a), you will not be entitled to pay and other monetary allowances of a Petty Officer Second Class until actually advanced to the pay grade for which you have been selected.

*Signed,
J. C. Sourbeer, Captain,
Medical Corps, United States Navy*



Dave Marks is recognized with a Federal Length of Service Award for 15 years of faithful service to the Federal Government.

Introducing New Staff -- Welcome Aboard!



HM1 Chrisbert Barbon

Petty Officer 1st Class Chrisbert Barbon arrived from Marine Support Squadron 374 where he's been the leading petty officer for the past three years. During that time he deployed to Bahrain; and previous to his assignment with MSS 374, he deployed to Afghanistan as an individual augmentee (IA) with an Army unit. "It was interesting," Barbon said. "It was my first deployment, and the Army medics have different training from Navy Corpsmen so I was helping them out." Barbon is originally from San Diego. He's been in the Navy 15 years and is a certified x-ray technician (he anticipates being assigned to Radiology). Barbon lives in Twentynine Palms with his wife, Cesarlyn, and two sons, Jacob and Jared. Barbon says he's basically a homebody. "I like going out to eat and for exercise, running and training for marathons," he said.



HN Coleen Buckles

Hospitalman Coleen Buckles is from Mount Vernon, Wash., but enlisted in Seattle where she was living at the time. She's been in the Navy just three years and arrived at NHTP from Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md., where she worked as a family practice general-duty Corpsman. HN Buckles was raised in a forested area and had never before been to the high desert, but finds it "amazingly pretty." She doesn't have dependents but she does have a hospitalman husband who will soon have orders for the MCAGCC green side. They plan to live in Vista Del Sol housing in Twentynine Palms. "I definitely enjoy outdoor activities," Buckles said. "So I enjoy hiking. In Winter I enjoy the snow sports." Music taste runs the gamut: "I'm more of like a beat person so I like dubstep; I'll listen to country, some rock; I'm kind of all over the place."



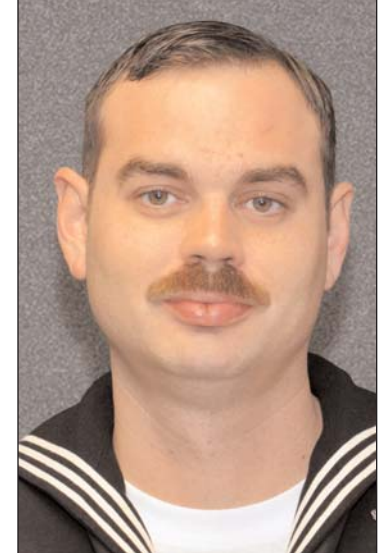
HM2 Daniel Dobrick

Petty Officer 2nd Class Daniel Dobrick arrived at NHTP after spending three years with the 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion (3rd LAR) where he was section leader for the battalion aid station. He's been in the Navy six years. Prior to his assignment with the 3rd LAR, he worked in NHTP's Labor and Delivery Department. "I loved it," he said. For his second tour at NHTP, Dobrick will be assigned to Staff Education and Training. Hometown is just up the road in Victorville, Calif. HM2 Dobrick is well on his way to making the Navy a career. He looks forward to earning his Chief Corpsman stripes and eventually retiring. He's a new home owner, having recently purchased a house in Twentynine Palms. He enjoys dirt-bike riding, working out, and listening to singer/song writers of the '60s and '70s on Pandora.



HM3 Albert Hernandez

Petty Officer 3rd Class Albert Hernandez grew up in El Paso, Texas. He's been in the Navy five years and is arriving from 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines (3/7), where he served as a line Corpsman. During his tour with the 3/7, Hernandez deployed to Afghanistan. Prior to his assignment with the 3/7, Hernandez was with a training battalion in Camp Pendleton. He's an experienced Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) instructor. Hernandez has been stationed at the Combat Center for the past two years. He anticipates living in the barracks. Without a car, he depends on his friends for transportation and enjoys traveling to San Diego and Los Angeles for recreation where he likes to "just hang out." For on-Base recreation, Hernandez enjoys working out. Music taste includes "everything," but he has a penchant for hip hop.



HM1 John Tugman

Petty Officer 1st Class John Tugman arrived from the 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion, Camp Pendleton, where he was Battalion Leading Petty Officer for the previous four years. Tugman has been on three deployments, the first two, with infantry units, he describes as intense, but less so for his third deployment. Tugman, originally from Palestine, W. Va., has been in the Navy 10 years. He enlisted to be an electrician, but found being a Navy Corpsman more to his liking. Tugman's wife, Brittany, and two children, Lexi (age 2) and Avry (age 9 months) are in the process of moving from Oceanside. He anticipates being assigned to the Emergency Medicine Department as Leading Petty Officer. For recreation, he enjoys hiking, or "anything outdoors."



Dwannah Tajalle (“Ms. D”), left, enjoyed a retirement luncheon in Patient Administration celebrating her 34 years of federal service Dec 18. Ms. D, originally from Chillicothe, Ohio, enlisted in the Army in 1972. She left the Army after 15 years of service as a military police staff sergeant. In May of 1993 she reported to work at Branch Health Clinic Twentynine Palms (the current Village Center) and was in processed by Petty Officer 1st Class Kelly Von Poppen (right), currently a civilian medical records administrator, still working at NHTP.



Culinary Specialist 2nd Class (SW/AW) Javonn Beall (left) reenlists for six more years Dec. 5. CS2 Beall, hometown, Longview, Texas, has been in the Navy over seven years. She is NHTP Galley supervisor and and assistant Leading Petty Officer. CS2 Beall is enrolled at Copper Mountain Community College and is taking courses in preparation for the Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program as a registered nurse. CS2 Codarius Washington is the recipient of the special 72-hour liberty bestowed by CS2 Beall.



Hospitalman Michael Wurtele receives his Honorable Desert Rat Certificate from NHTP Executive Officer Capt. Angela Nimmo during his end-of-tour award ceremony Dec. 19. Wurtele has orders for Naval Hospital Bremerton.



Petty Officer 2nd Class Martel Thomas reenlists for six more years Dec. 19. Thomas, a preventive medicine technician, has been in the Navy six years. Hometown is Southbend, Ind. HM2 Thomas has orders for the USS Pearl Harbor. Thomas’ wife is HM2 Diana Camacho, Leading Petty Officer for NHTP’s Family Medicine’s Gold Team.

Left: The Command Staff serves the holiday meal Dec. 23 with support from (right) the Culinary Specialists who see to the dietary needs of NHTP patients, visitors, employees and family members 365 days a year.



MBTA
2X8



Hospitalman Ryan Weems receives a Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding customer service in the Emergency Department.



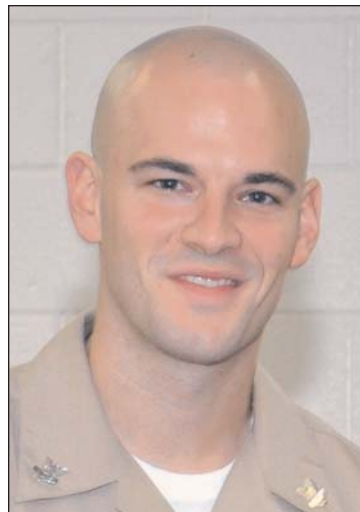
Hospital Corpsman Third Class Benjamin P. Kaplan is awarded a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal "for professional achievement in the superior performance of his duties while serving as Shift Leader, Multi-Service Ward, NHTP, from Dec. 2012 to Dec. 2014. HM3 Kaplan maintained an inventory of 99 equipment line items valued at \$500,000 with 100-percent accountability. Petty Officer Kaplan's personal initiative, perseverance and unswerving devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."



Hospitalman Jose N. Ortiz is awarded a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal "for professional achievement in the superior performance of his duties while serving as General Duty Corpsman, Adult Medical Care Clinic, NHTP, from March 2013 to Dec. 2014. Hospitalman Ortiz skillfully performed his duties as physical health assessment work center supervisor by completing 1,245 physical health assessments which increased medical readiness by 26 percent. Hospitalman Ortiz' personal initiative, perseverance and unswerving devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."



Mrs. Therese Weseman is presented with a Letter of Commendation "for your selection as Senior Civilian of the Quarter, NHTP, for the period from July 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014. Your exemplary professionalism and outstanding performance of duty reflect great credit upon yourself and are in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service. I commend you for a job 'Well Done' and wish you continued success in your future endeavors."
--Capt. J. Sourbeer



Hospital Corpsman Second Class Nicholas A. Kirsch is awarded a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal "for outstanding performance of duties while serving as Biomedical Equipment Technician, Materials Management Department, NHTP, from April 2014 to June 2014, culminating in his selection as Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms' Junior Sailor of the Quarter for the Third Quarter, Fiscal Year 2014. Petty Officer Kirsch's exceptional professional ability and loyal devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service. Signed, Bruce L. Gillingham, Rear Admiral, Medical Corps, United States Navy



Mrs. Cindy Crockett is presented with a Letter of Commendation "for your selection as Junior Civilian of the Quarter, NHTP, for the period of July 1, 2014 to Sept. 30, 2014. Your exemplary professionalism and outstanding performance of duty reflected great credit upon yourself and were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service. I commend you for a job 'Well Done' and wish you continued success in your future endeavors."
--Capt. J. Sourbeer



Capt. Evelyn Quattrone is awarded a Customer Service Award which reads: "It is with great pleasure that I extend to you my sincere appreciation for your outstanding performance in Patient Services as a Nurse Practitioner Midwife, NHTP, for Fiscal Year 2014 Fourth Quarter. Your organizational skills to coordinate the Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms first "Operation Mermaid" inspired our team to think outside the parameters of the past for possible solutions to promote patient-centered healthcare. I commend you for a job "Well Done" and wish you continued success in your future endeavors." Signed, J. C. Sourbeer, Captain, Medical Corps, United States Navy



Teresa Turbyfill (in yellow) wins the Junior Enlisted Association's Cinnamon Challenge Nov. 26 with her cinnamon-infused cupcakes. Second place winners were CS2 Javonnie Beall and CS3 Codarius Washington who made chicken wings and cinnamon turnovers. Third place winner was Annmarie Whitcomb who entered Mexican chocolate cinnamon cupcakes. Judges were Capt. Jay Sourbeer, Cmdr. Gary Grothe, and HMC Andrew Gonzales. Capt. Sourbeer remarked, "I've judged many food competitions during my career, but this was by far the tastiest."